

The Freshets—Great Flood at Albany—Immense Loss of Property.

The ice in the Deerfield river broke up, Sunday night, and is dammed up in the bed of the river at Deerfield meadows. The water and ice set back, undermining and entirely destroying the mill, which is at Deerfield, known as Meadow mill, with from 600 to 800 bushels of grain and meal. Two families were at the mill, and the damage is estimated at \$10,000.

Albany is visited by the greatest flood ever known there. The damage is reckoned by millions. The city through Sunday night was a scene of the utmost confusion from fire and water. Laborers were at work removing goods from the lower floors of stores in the lower parts of the city till about 11 o'clock, when the water rose so rapidly that they were obliged to flee for safety. At 5 o'clock, Monday morning, the water was three feet higher than it was ever known before. The entire lower part of the city was flooded and the water flowed through Broadway from the Exchange to the City Hall, flooding the stores and filling the cellars on the west side. The streets between Broadway and the river were navigable by boats.

At two o'clock, Monday morning, the water was rising at the rate of 6 inches in five minutes. Persons who had retired to bed, thinking themselves safe, were aroused by burrowing rats through the water, knocking at the doors of houses to arouse the sleepers to a sense of their danger. The wildest confusion prevailed, the people in the lower parts of the city having barely time to escape with their lives. The bell-ringers and cries of a large number of cattle stabled in the distilleries, which were subsequently drowned, added to their excitement. About 3 o'clock the alarm bells sounded for fire, and flames were discovered bursting forth from buildings in different parts of the city. E. C. Warner & Sons' line kilns and buildings, Gibson & Dalton's planing and plaster mills and R. Barrett's fine brick store on the pier, were all in flames at the same time, having caught fire from the slacking of lime. The height of the water rendered it impossible to reach the scenes of conflagration with engines, but the firemen put out in boats with buckets and confined the flames to the buildings where they originated. About this time the wind changed and the weather became piercingly cold. Propeller Western World caught fire and was scuttled and sunk to save her cargo, 4000 bushels of corn.

Rumors prevail of several lives being lost, and they are probably correct. Part of Greenbush was submerged and two men were drowned, one of whom was lying on a pier, intoxicated. Several steam tugs, canal boats and barges were sunk. The canal warehouses on the pier were stove in, the flood making a clean breach through them. A number of horses stabled in the lower part of the city were drowned; 360 head of cattle were drowned at East Albany. Two or three weeks of houses went down the river from above Monday morning; on the roof of one of the houses were two men. The railroad tracks were submerged and no trains left Albany on Monday. A public meeting has been called to devise measures for the relief of sufferers by the flood.

Mr. Siliman, a lumber dealer, had a narrow escape with his life. He was in his office when a rapid rush of water over the district took place, and he was surrounded by eight feet of water before he knew of his danger. He cut his way through the roof and was rescued by a boat.

Monday evening the waters were not receding, although there had been no perceptible rise since 4 o'clock. Teams were employed in dragging out the accessible dead cattle. Huge masses of lumber, offices, houses, etc., were passing down the stream with frightful rapidity. It is impossible to conjecture the extent of the damage; days must pass before correct estimates can be made. Ice on the pier is piled up 20 feet. R. H. Pease's machinery shop is demolished and the valuable machinery destroyed. The Central railroad freight house, filled with a large amount of flour and provisions, was surrounded with water. The canal line warehouses on the pier were cut open and the contents carried off by the ice. The ice is piled 15 feet high on the Troy and Greenbush railroad the entire distance. The citizens and officials of Albany are acting energetically for the relief of the suffering. The Hudson never opened so early but twice before.

At Troy the water was higher than it has been known for 30 years, the city as high as Fifth street being overflowed. Bridges from up the river came down with considerable force and lodged against the Troy and Saratoga railroad bridge. The Rensselaer and Saratoga freight depot on Green Island caught fire from the slacking of lime, and was burned. Trains from all points were stopped and business entirely suspended.

There is a flood in the Susquehanna river. The ice gorged four miles below Harrisburg and is piled upon the railroad track some ten or fifteen feet high. Trains are of course suspended. It is reported that a couple of bridges over the Juniata have been swept away, together with several pieces of the Cumberland Valley bridge. An enormous destruction of property is threatened. The Delaware river rose 15 feet at Easton, Pa., and the town was flooded in some parts to the depth of five feet. A house at Lambertville and a portion of Van Cleave's foundry at Trenton were washed away. The bridges are all in a precarious condition, the ice in some places being piled up 20 feet. The ice in the Schuylkill broke up, Sunday night, at Philadelphia; most of the wharves are overflowed, and large quantities of wood and lumber have floated off. Several canal boats were carried down the stream, and others left on the wharves by the subsiding waters.

A great portion of the wood work of the long bridge between Washington and the Virginia side of the Potomac was swept away by ice on Sunday and carried down the river. There was much ice still gorged above the bridge. The telegraph crossed on the bridge and is prostrated.

There were 10 to 12 feet of water in the Ohio at Pittsburg, Saturday, the river was clear of ice, and steamers were loading for immediate departure. The ice was gorged in the Cuyahoga river and much damage was done to warehouses, with considerable losses of grain, lumber, etc., by the overflow. The river at Cincinnati was rising and full of ice.

A LESSON FOR FORTUNE-MERCHANTS.—A Mississippi merchant, during a day's business in which he was crowded with customers, sold a saddle of the value of forty dollars, and forgot to put it down. Next day, recollecting the fact of the sale, but unable to recollect the name of the purchaser, he directed his clerk Jim to read over the alphabetical list, in the ledger, aloud, in hope of refreshing his memory. But his labor was lost. Worn out by the effort at recollection, and as the recidivist means of getting over the difficulty, "Jim," said the merchant, "put down a saddle to every one of the customers." This was accordingly done. When the list was read, the clerk said, "I have your saddle." "How far has your biggest boy cycled?" "O! I believe my biggest boy has cycled as far as the single rule of four!"

Beck's County—5000 majority for Buchanan. "At one school, where I called, the teacher came to the door; it was storming severely; without any salutation or token of recognition, he hastily withdrew, and by the time my horse was tied and blanketed, and my school apparatus placed in the doorway, he had roughly sketched a map of his own state on each of the two blackboards which the directors had recently procured for him. Diving myself of my wet hat and overcoat, I stepped to one of the boards, and expressing my pleasure at the interest thus manifested in the study of geography commenced pointing with a ruler to the boundaries and rivers, inquiring of the scholars at the same time what they were. I was unable to get a single answer from any one of them, because this was their first drill. They interchanged glances with each other, as much as to say, 'our foolish teacher has been holding this time.' At the time of my visit to another school, with eight good windows in the room, three of them only had the shutters open. The mephitic atmosphere was very oppressive and offensive; but it was not long before the shades of all were raised and a free circulation of air admitted. Although this was late in the season, the house had not been whitewashed this season, nor the desks, benches and floors scrubbed and cleaned. The room might be fairly characterized as filthy and unhealthy, and but little wonder need be expressed that a child, *compot mentis*, should be, as was here the case, twelve months learning its letters!"

Important from Kansas—Ruffian Legislation Conquering the Governor.

The ruffian legislature for (but not of) Kansas is over-ruling Gov. Geary, "rough-shod." Their bill to admit persons charged with murder to bail, and giving judges and justices unlimited discretion to admit or refuse bail in other cases, has been passed over the vote of the governor by a nearly unanimous vote. And to make sure of any desirable amount of judicial annoyances to the free state settlers, other bills are in process of enactment, extending the jurisdiction of justices of the peace, who are the legislature, and giving jurisdiction in civil and criminal cases also to the probate judges, appointed by the same legislature. This confusion of powers is defended by the sham legislature on the ground that they cannot rely for justice on the courts established by the federal government since the persecution of their favorite judge, Leconte.

The ruffians have also defeated the governor on the disputed appointment of a successor to sheriff Jones of Douglas county. The governor had refused to commission Shannard, the ex-convict of the ruffians, saying that the intemperance and ruffianism of the man unfitted him for the office. But the legislature thought quite otherwise, and has passed a bill commissioning said Shannard, and legalizing his past acts as sheriff, which he had done without any commission. Thus the governor is helpless in the hands of these fellows, who vote his authority squarely out of his hands, and can get special laws to meet every emergency.

The legislature has before it a bill to initiate measures for a state government, most adversely contrived to retain the power in the hands of their Missouri constituents, and defraud the people of Kansas to the control of their own institutions. The census is to be made by the bogus sheriffs appointed by the legislature, before the 10th of April. The list of voters is to include only those who are inhabitants of the territory on the 1st of April; in the territory on that day is alone essential; no evidence or guaranty of actual citizenship is required; the voting lists are to be returned to the bogus judges of probate, who may add or erase names according to their good pleasure, and without being called upon to give reasons for it, until the 1st of May, when the lists are to be sent to the governor, who will have them printed and distributed. The election of delegates to form a state constitution is to be held on the third Monday in June, the bogus county judges to appoint the election judges, clerks, etc., so as to keep all the machinery exclusively in ruffian hands, and make sure of its working after its old methods. There are also laws provided for frauds of voters or election officers, but all subject to the decisions of the same judges by whom the officers are appointed, and who are themselves interested in the success of the grand conspiracy to make Kansas a slave state in spite of the wishes of its squatter sovereigns. Is it not true that Congress should put a summary termination to this reign of fraud, oppression and misrule in Kansas, in the only way in which it can be done, by sweeping from existence the usurping legislature and its monstrous enactments together?

The more notable ruffians, who distinguish themselves by special ugliness and ferocity, during the civil war, are getting their reward from the legislature in the shape of exclusive terry and bridge privileges on all the routes of travel, covering a period of fifteen years. An act has passed making it a penal offense to carry on banking without a charter; this is aimed at a private banking house at Leavenworth, in the hands of five state men.

Education and Politics in Pennsylvania.

The reports of the county superintendents of the common schools of Pennsylvania for 1856 brilliantly illuminate the causes of her vote in the last presidential election. We make a few extracts from these reports, with the vote of the counties to which they refer.

BECK'S COUNTY.—Vote for President, Buchanan, 11,972; Fremont, 500.

"It is not to be disguised that much anti-school and anti-education feeling exists in the county, that embarrasses and thwarts even reasonable effort. It is felt operating strongly upon the minds of the inferior grades of teachers, who exert no favorable influence, directly or indirectly, but it is still more strongly felt upon the minds of the directors, in many districts, who are deterred from doing what their judgment dictates ought to be done. It will require some years before this influence is allayed. I will not say overcome. In one school, where I had drawn the map of Pennsylvania on a blackboard, the same diagram had remained for a year, the board never having been used in the interim. In another not a scholar in the school could tell me in what country they lived, and when I held up Holbrook's five inch globe, the oceans on which were painted blue, and asked what it was, a large boy, at least seventeen years of age, replied, 'a bird's egg!' Soon after this I visited another of an uproarious character. There were several infants here who were not old enough, according to law, to be admitted. The teacher said she had been informed by a director that the parents of these babies would pay her for taking care of them, and very artfully inquired of no school to charge. Of late years, not having been much accustomed to nursing, I was unable to fix the rate, and surprised her very much by informing her she had no business to have them in school at all."

MOORE COUNTY.—Buchanan 2275, Fremont 500.

"There was one man who came to me, who was wiser than all the rest, with a teacher for examination. 'Here,' said he, 'is a schoolmaster I want you to inspect, he is good enough to teach our schools; I have been a school director for fourteen years and have hired all the teachers. We don't want any law; we don't want you to visit our district; we get this man cheap, for ten dollars and board; give him a certificate, so he can get his money.' I then addressed the teacher and tried to make myself amiable. I wished to know where his native place was. 'I don't know,' he answered. His friend told him I only wanted to know 'where he lived when he was at home.' 'O!' said he, 'I live in Backhill township, Northampton county.' 'How far are your best scholars advanced in arithmetic?' 'About three miles,' said Mr. Pelagius. His friend looking a little surprised, put the question in his own language, 'How far has your biggest boy cycled'?"

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We think the quakers must be excused from any further responsibility for the adverse vote of Pennsylvania. The state needs a thorough course of schoolmasters and newspapers.

Field Crops in Vermont.

The following is the Report of the Committee of the Vermont State Agricultural Society, (J. W. Coburn of Springfield, Chairman,) on Field Crops. It was made at the annual meeting of the Society in January:—

"Though the range in the premium list for Field Crops is comparatively small, we find it impossible to make all the awards for want of Competitors, and a proper compliance with the rules, in part, by the few who do compete."

"In presenting this *disunited* list of awards though good so far as they go, your Committee see no cause for exultation, or even gratification. With a soil unsurpassed for fertility, a population unequalled for intelligence, and agricultural energy and industry, the competition in Field Crops should have been full, showing the same active enterprise in this, as in display on our Fairs in the competition of horses and sheep. It requires as much skill and good judgment, as much practical common sense to improve and cultivate the soil aright, and grow large and profitable crops, as it does to rear the most excellent animal of any kind. Though tastes may differ, and the same individual cannot give his attention to the production of everything that is extra, yet we have the spirit and ability among us and the material to work upon, to improve the soil of Vermont to as high a degree of cultivation and production, as we have done with some of the domestic animals in beauty, usefulness and durability. Your Committee cannot but indulge the hope, in which we believe we share in common with the Society, that hereafter this branch of competition will be more largely represented than it is now, or has been at any of our previous annual meetings."

The first premium of \$10 for best acre Winter Wheat, is awarded to Nathan Cushing of Woodstock. Variety, *white flint*, very clean and of a beautiful quality. 42 bushels on the acre by the legal standard of weight.

N. A. Fletcher, of Bridport, presented a very fine sample of white flint wheat; production, 40 bushels on the acre. Also a very fair sample of Spring wheat. Mr. Fletcher did not strictly comply with the rule.

A. U. Stewart, of Bristol, presented a fair sample of oats, yield 74 bushels and 3 quarts on the acre, for which we award him the first premium of \$6.

C. W. Brownell, of Williston, presented a very good sample of twelve rowed corn, but he had not complied with the rule; his manner of measurement was not so accurate as it should have been; but from his statement and other proof shown to us we have no doubt of the yield on the acre, being 100 bushels, and we recommend a gratuity for awarded him of \$7.

Mr. Cushing, of Woodstock, also presented a good sample of white Winter rye, yield 38 3/4 bushels on the acre, for which we award him the premium for best acre of Rye, \$6.

A SINGULAR LAW.—A legal correspondent furnishes us with the following note of the law in Vermont:—"A singular law exists in Vermont relative to the trustee process, which it may be important to the manufacturers of Rhode Island to keep in mind. Mr. Merchant of Vermont buys goods of Mr. Manufacturer of Rhode Island, and gives his negotiable note therefor on time. The manufacturer endorses it and gets it discounted at bank. If the manufacturer fail, that negotiable note may be trusted, and the bona fide holder of a negotiable note may whistle for his pay."

No wonder the State House was burned up. Providence Journal.

COUNTING OF THE ELECTORAL VOTES. Both Houses of Congress met in convention, Wednesday, to count the votes of the electoral college. By the usual formalities it was ascertained that Messrs. Buchanan and Breckinridge are elected President and Vice President of the U. States.

The question of including the vote of Wisconsin, which was cast by her electors on the day after the day fixed by law, was discussed in convention and afterwards by both Houses, but without any determination of the question. It was argued by Mr. Seward and others that the vote of Wisconsin should be counted in, and that for the future a law to reach such cases should be passed. Congress transacted no other business.

England was visited by a snow storm of unusual severity, Christmas week, commencing Christmas night. In Yorkshire the snow drifted and the farmers had to dig their sheep from drifts three and four yards in depth, and many of them were taken out dead.

ANOTHER FEARFUL MYSTERY.—There are fearful suspicions in relation to the recent death of Hosea J. Gardner, late postmaster at Hingham. The suspicion is that he was poisoned by his wife, and so strong has this opinion become from circumstances made known since his burial, that his remains have been examined and indications of poison found in them. The deceased had expressed fear that his wife would kill him, and several circumstances conspire to fasten suspicion upon her. Mr. Gardner was a Universalist and his wife is a member of the Baptist church. The community at Hingham is deeply excited, and an investigation into the affair is in progress.

The Vermont Phoenix.

BRATTLEBORO, VT.
SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 14, 1857.

[From the Green Mountain Freeman.]

"From all quarters, we discover a strong tendency to file off or arouse up to the formation of old Whig party. In New Hampshire they have just held a Convention, and nominated Prof. Haddock of Dartmouth College for Governor. (Why not a codfish as well as a haddock?) In this State nothing but the more immediate question of the 'State House' has prevented an agitation to plan to be mistaken. And even now, the old file are continually preparing the people for a cast off from our ship. Nothing but the appointment of old Whigs to office, by the incoming Administration will quiet this. But there is little to fear from it in Vermont. The State organization, under Freedom's colors, is too near perfected to alarm the people with the prospect of a Whig or Fillmore K. N. party now. However, a bold attempt will be made with the appointment of District Judge for a term during life. This appointment was brought about by the worst deception and treachery, is well known by every leading man of his party in the State.—Green Mountain Freeman."

We cannot sympathize with the spirit of any being who could in his soler moods pen a paragraph like the above. We quote it only to condemn it. With Mr. Smalley we have no political sympathy. From our first entrance into political life we have been inflexibly opposed to the party whose organ he has been during the recent canvass. But personally we esteem the newly appointed Judge as a gentleman, and an honorable, high-minded man—one who will grace the station he is about to fill with an ability and urbanity that is not often surpassed. His political brethren of the press in this state deserve commendation the appointment as one eminently "fit to be made."

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The Freshet of Sunday.

At West Fitchburg, on the Nashua river, the dam of Hanna & Beebe, paper makers, was carried away, and the basements of the Haywood chair factory, and several small tenements, at Fitchburg, were flooded.

On the Rutland & Burlington Railroad, some six or eight feet of the track and embankment were washed out, and a freight train coming suddenly upon the gap, was thrown off.

A bridge on the line of the Western Vermont road was swept away by the water.

The Connecticut at Hartford reached 174 feet above low water mark on Tuesday, which is the highest point of this flood. The water has since receded.

A bridge over Charles river at Waltham has been carried away by the freshet; damage about \$1500. The bridge of the Fitchburg railroad, between Waterbury and Waltham, has been raised by the ice some eighteen inches, so that trains pass it slowly and with difficulty.

In Connecticut the towns of Birmingham, Derby, and Huntington, at the confluence of the Naugatuck and Housatonic rivers suffered severely. Families living near the banks of the river were obliged to save themselves with all haste, leaving everything they possessed behind. The bridge across the Housatonic, connecting Birmingham with Derby, was entirely swept away; it cost \$10,000. Several other bridges it is reported were carried away. All the factories and mills in Birmingham have suffered material damage, while some were demolished. The total loss by the freshet in that vicinity is estimated at \$100,000.

At Albany the water receded considerably, Monday night. It is reported that two families on the island opposite the city have perished. St. John's church was badly damaged, the pews being ripped up, etc. There was much suffering for drinking water, all the pipes in the lower part of the city being either frozen or submerged. Large quantities of grain stored in second stories were flooded, and the bridge was raised several feet above the iron columns. The relief committee were active, and soup houses were opened near the flooded districts. The coal yards were mostly under water and there was some suffering for want of fuel. The passengers who left New York by the Hudson river railroad, Monday morning, reached Albany at five o'clock Tuesday evening. The track for miles from Albany is covered, and in some places torn up.

At St. Louis, Monday, the Mississippi had risen 18 feet since Saturday morning, and was still rising with immense quantities of floating ice. The Missouri was open to above Jefferson City. The Illinois was open and had risen 12 or 15 feet at Peoria, and at last accounts was still rising. There had been heavy rains throughout the West, and numerous slides had occurred on the railroads.

In the vicinity of Chicago, Ill., the freshet did immense damage to railroads, bridges, telegraphs, mills, etc. At Aurora, two bridges, a saw mill, planing mill, carriage factory and large quantities of lumber were swept off, and it is feared several lives were lost. The Rock Island railroad bridge at Mendota, the Michigan Central railroad bridge at Ypsilanti, the bridge at Niles, together with several over the St. Joseph's and Kalamazoo rivers were swept off. The southwest portion of Chicago was submerged. The damage to the Chicago, Burlington and Quincy railroad is estimated at \$100,000.

On Sunday the ice gave way on Barataria river, at Amboy, N. J., sweeping before it fifty shops, schooners, barges and canal boats, many of which will be recovered again. A great deal of property in the warehouses was damaged by water; total loss about \$50,000.

At Saugerties, N. Y., Barclay's dam was carried away, Monday, 300 tons of coal swept off, and several mills damaged. The loss of the dam will stop the factories for months, and 700 operatives are thus thrown out of employment.

Mr. CHRYSTE.—The Washington correspondent of the Springfield Argus, (Buchanan) writes as follows:—"It is said pretty confidently that Mr. Buchanan intends to offer some distinguished mark of his consideration to the Hon. Charles Sumner, both as an acknowledgment of his own eminent talents, and the timely and generous aid of the old line Whigs in the late campaign. But for the transcendent claims and overpowering influence in favor of Mr. Toney, he would have the Attorney-Generalship; but it is supposed that Mr. Buchanan will offer him a prominent foreign mission. I do not vouch for these predictions."

A SUBSTITUTE FOR AMBSTER LEGISLATORS.—In the Pennsylvania Legislature, a few days since, the following resolution was introduced:—"That our friend and neighbor, and celebrated artist, John Landis, be employed to paint the portraits of the travelling members of this House, and that said likenesses be placed in the respective seats appropriated to said members, to represent them in their absence, and to perpetuate their memory should they be called to 'that undiscovered country from whose bowels no traveller returns.'"

Mr. Roger A. Pryor has retired from the Richmond Enquirer, and formed an editorial connection with the Charleston Mercury. He is right. Virginia is already too far North for Mr. Pryor.

Whoever thought that horses would be fitted to shoes, like humans, according to size? They are, says Messrs. Blodgett, Brown & Co., 80 and 82 Pearl street, Boston, are shipping immense quantities of that wonderful invention, *Burden's new Patent Horse and Mule Shoes*.

A Friend in Need, is the Balsam of Wild Cherry to all who are afflicted with bronchial troubles or Asthma. Its singular power over these diseases has rendered Dr. Wistar famous wherever pulmonary complaints are known.

New Hampshire.

The Whig and Fillmore Americans of New Hampshire met in Convention at Concord, last week, and nominated a State ticket. The meeting was secret, but it is understood that Charles B. Haddock was nominated for Governor. Not more than a dozen or fifteen persons were present. We are surprised that a man of Mr. Haddock's talents and fame should lend his influence to such a small and insignificant faction, as could only pull four or five hundred votes at the last election. We are inclined to think he did not consent to this use of his name.

The nomination of WILLIAM HALE is well received by the Republicans throughout the State. His principal opponent in the nominating convention has since expressed himself identified with the cause. All the diversion that can be made for the "Straight Whig" ticket cannot prevent his triumphant election. The Granite State will not soon relapse we trust into that political thralldom from which she has but recently emerged.

AMHERST COLLEGE.—At a meeting of the corporation of Amherst College, held February 5th, in Boston, it was voted that the Corporation gratefully accept the proposition of the Hon. Samuel Wiliston, which was to erect at his own expense a fine building to contain an Alumni Hall, large rooms for the accommodation of the Literary Societies, and a fire-proof Chemical Laboratory, &c. in the basement, at a probable cost of \$16,000, on condition that a Dormitory for the students should be immediately erected, instead of North College, recently burnt.

The Corporation accordingly voted to proceed immediately to build the aforesaid Dormitory, and to take measures to raise the funds required, without delay.

We are also informed that the losses of the students have been nearly made up by the generosity of the public, and that the College is going forward with its usual efficiency and success.

Through the liberality of several friends of science, Prof. Hitchcock has succeeded in purchasing of Russell Field, Esq., of Turner's Falls, for \$600 his collection of fossil footprints, and it has been asked to the very latest, weighing almost a ton. They made five cart-loads for a two horse team.

DASTARD TRACHEARY.—After having led the small squad of Slave Democrats in this State by the nose for four years, that "miserable drunken brute"—B. A. Smalley, of Burlington, has been honored with the appointment of District Judge for a term during life. This appointment was brought about by the worst deception and treachery, is well known by every leading man of his party in the State.—Green Mountain Freeman.

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But personally we esteem the newly appointed Judge as a gentleman, and an honorable, high-minded man—one who will grace the station he is about to fill with an ability and urbanity that is not often surpassed. His political brethren of the press in this state deserve commendation the appointment as one eminently "fit to be made."

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A bridge over Charles river at Waltham has been carried away by the freshet; damage about \$1500. The bridge of the Fitchburg railroad, between Waterbury and Waltham, has been raised by the ice some eighteen inches, so that trains pass it slowly and with difficulty.

In Connecticut the towns of Birmingham, Derby, and Huntington, at the confluence of the Naugatuck and Housatonic rivers suffered severely. Families living near the banks of the river were obliged to save themselves with all haste, leaving everything they possessed behind. The bridge across the Housatonic, connecting Birmingham with Derby, was entirely swept away; it cost \$10,000. Several other bridges it is reported were carried away. All the factories and mills in Birmingham have suffered material damage, while some were demolished. The total loss by the freshet in that vicinity is estimated at \$100,000.

At Albany the water receded considerably, Monday night. It is reported that two families on the island opposite the city have perished. St. John's church was badly damaged, the pews being ripped up, etc. There was much suffering for drinking water, all the pipes in the lower part of the city being either frozen or submerged. Large quantities of grain stored in second stories were flooded, and the bridge was raised several feet above the iron columns. The relief committee were active, and soup houses were opened near the flooded districts. The coal yards were mostly under water and there was some suffering for want of fuel. The passengers who left New York by the Hudson river railroad, Monday morning, reached Albany at five o'clock Tuesday evening. The track for miles from Albany is covered, and in some places torn up.

At St. Louis, Monday, the Mississippi had risen 18 feet since Saturday morning, and was still rising with immense quantities of floating ice. The Missouri was open to above Jefferson City. The Illinois was open and had risen 12 or 15 feet at Peoria, and at last accounts was still rising. There had been heavy rains throughout the West, and numerous slides had occurred on the railroads.

In the vicinity of Chicago, Ill., the freshet did immense damage to railroads, bridges, telegraphs, mills, etc. At Aurora, two bridges, a saw mill, planing mill, carriage factory and large quantities of lumber were swept off, and it is feared several lives were lost. The Rock Island railroad bridge at Mendota, the Michigan Central railroad bridge at Ypsilanti, the bridge at Niles, together with several over the St. Joseph's and Kalamazoo rivers were swept off. The southwest portion of Chicago was submerged. The damage to the Chicago, Burlington and Quincy railroad is estimated at \$100,000.

On Sunday the ice gave way on Barataria river, at Amboy, N. J., sweeping before it fifty shops, schooners, barges and canal boats, many of which will be recovered again. A great deal of property in the warehouses was damaged by water; total loss about \$50,000.

At Saugerties, N. Y., Barclay's dam was carried away, Monday, 300 tons of coal swept off, and several mills damaged. The loss of the dam will stop the factories for months, and 700 operatives are thus thrown out of employment.

Mr. CHRYSTE.—The Washington correspondent of the Springfield Argus, (Buchanan) writes as follows:—"It is said pretty confidently that Mr. Buchanan intends to offer some distinguished mark of his consideration to the Hon. Charles Sumner, both as an acknowledgment of his own eminent talents, and the timely and generous aid of the old line Whigs in the late campaign. But for the transcendent claims and overpowering influence in favor of Mr. Toney, he would have the Attorney-Generalship; but it is supposed that Mr. Buchanan will offer him a prominent foreign mission. I do not vouch for these predictions."

A SUBSTITUTE FOR AMBSTER LEGISLATORS.—In the Pennsylvania Legislature, a few days since, the following resolution was introduced:—"That our friend and neighbor, and celebrated artist, John Landis, be employed to paint the portraits of the travelling members of this House, and that said likenesses be placed in the respective seats appropriated to said members, to represent them in their absence, and to perpetuate their memory should they be called to 'that undiscovered country from whose bowels no traveller returns.'"

Mr. Roger A. Pryor has retired from the Richmond Enquirer, and formed an editorial connection with the Charleston Mercury. He is right. Virginia is already too far North for Mr. Pryor.

Whoever thought that horses would be fitted to shoes, like humans, according to size? They are, says Messrs. Blodgett, Brown & Co., 80 and 82 Pearl street, Boston, are shipping immense quantities of that wonderful invention, *Burden's new Patent Horse and Mule Shoes*.

A Friend in Need, is the Balsam of Wild Cherry to all who are afflicted with bronchial troubles or Asthma. Its singular power over these diseases has rendered Dr. Wistar famous wherever pulmonary complaints are known.

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Local Intelligence.

SOBRIETY LEVEE.—The Levee of the members of the Universalist Society and friends of Rev. Mr. Deere, their pastor, took place at the Town Hall on Thursday evening of last week, according to previous announcement. It was one of the most pleasant gatherings we have ever attended in this place. The receipts, notwithstanding the precarious condition of the travelling, which prevented the attendance of friends from abroad, were quite satisfactory. The net proceeds, after paying expenses, amounted to about \$100.